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League of Women Voters of Maine

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LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

League of Women Voters of Maine

January 27, 1963

Volume 4, No. 3

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Tuesday, February 5 1:30 p.m. Room 103(?) State Office Building
PROBATION AND PAROLE BOYS TRAINING CENTER

Wednesday, February 6 1:30 p.m. Room 317(?) State Office Building
L.D. 227 Emergency Matching Funds for Sewage Treatment Plants

Betty McGirr of Waterville will speak for the BTC, Miriam Emery of Portland will speak on Probation and Parole. Whit McEvoy will speak on L.D. 227. The January 24th WIC budget hearing was a very select affair. Raeburn MacDonald of the WIC, Frank Chapman of the Maine Municipal Association and three League members appeared before four members of the Appropriations Committee. Two Leagues wrote letters, and Senator Edmunds seems to be paying attention to these. He answers! Notice was short and the weather terrible, but let's do better on these next hearings!

The League flyer HELP MAINE GROW WITH A STATE INCOME TAX was distributed to the Legislature January 24th. More on Taxes when all the bills are in.

The chief need for PROBATION AND PAROLE is 14 additional officers to adequately service the new District Court system.

The Citizens Committee for the BOYS TRAINING CENTER met on January 23rd to decide on courses of action. Since the BTC operating budget was cut considerably in Governor Reed's budget recommendations, the following aims were decided upon by the Citizen's Committee:

1. To urge the restoration of \$16,573 of a total of \$86,456 cut from the BTC current services budget to keep the Center from slipping in terms of custodial care and contractual services (medical, dental, optical, hospitalization)
2. To stress the importance of improved levels of service in all categories, particularly maintenance care for boys who are returned to communities in the aftercare program, but who have no one to assume responsibility for them.
3. To press for four additional teachers and four new classrooms to be achieved by dividing four present classrooms in half.

A Joint Legislative Committee has been appointed to recommend a site for relocation of the BTC and report to the Legislature before April 1st. Senate members are Hinds, Harrington, Ferguson. House members are Hanson of Gardiner, Cressey of North Berwick, Benson of Southwest Harbor, Wood of Brooks and Hendricks of Portland. The League will not take action on site until this committee reports except that we will oppose unsuitable sites such as Hebron or Presque Isle.

A "Gold Star" goes to Brunswick, the only League which completed LEGISLATIVE INTERVIEWS and mailed in reports by the suggested date. How about the rest of you?

This is being mailed to Local League Presidents only.